

of interests in seven campsite leases in Biscayne National Park, Florida, identified as campsite leases collectively known as "Stiltsville". Had I been present I would have voted "no."

Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for Rollcall No. 184, on agreeing to the amendment to reduce the amount for National Endowment for the Arts by \$10,000,000. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for Rollcall No. 185, on passage of the FY 2002 Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

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A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL  
AMERICANS: MR. NIGEL O. PILE

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**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2001*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, as the nation of Guyana celebrates its 35th Independence Anniversary, I would like to salute an outstanding Guyanese American, Nigel O. Pile as a Point of Light for all Americans.

Nigel O. Pile hails from Guyana. He was born on December 22, 1950. He held various leadership positions while growing up in Guyana, including Chairman of the St. James The Less Anglican Church Organization. He also represented the Diocesan Youth Association at International Conferences, through various Youth Exchange Programs. Athletics continues to gain tremendous support from Nigel.

Nigel Pile came to the United States in 1977. He holds an Associate Degree in Banking and Finance from Borough of Manhattan Community College and furthered his discipline in finance at Baruch College. He has worked in the New York financial district as an Account Administrator where he was responsible for the investing of cash from various Pension Funds, such as the New York State Pension Fund.

In 1983, he started a small Travel Agency on Fulton Street in the Bedford Stuyvesant area. National Pride, as it is known, has become a household name to the Guyanese family. From a one-desk, one-phone and one-staff agency, National Pride is now one of the most successful enterprises in New York and Guyana. Nigel Pile has expanded this operation to two offices in New York and five in Guyana. Through this expansion, he has created opportunities of entrepreneurship and employment for the residents of the Flatbush and Queens communities. The establishment of National Pride has created channels through which Guyanese Americans can initiate and maintain contact with relatives and friends in Guyana.

In the spirit of fostering unity among Guyanese, Nigel Pile maintains his sponsorship of the Ms. Guyana New York Pageant, and continues to support social programs for youth as well as the elderly.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute Mr. Nigel O. Pile as a Point of Light for all Americans.

2001 SUPPLEMENTAL  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 20, 2001*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2216) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I would like to add additional comments to the previous statement I gave regarding my good friend from New York, Mr. CROWLEY's amendment to the Supplemental Appropriations bill.

A few weeks ago this body voted on the President's education bill, showing support for our students. Nothing is more important to our children's future than a sound education.

We all agree on that matter, but our schools cannot meet the needs of our children if they are underfunded.

This amendment would strike 25 million dollars under the Operations and Maintenance account of the Army that has been requested for Recruiting and Advertising for this branch.

These much needed funds would be transferred to the Department of Education for their Magnet School Assistance Program.

Many of the students in my district benefit from Magnet Schools. Specifically Community School District 30 which serves a diverse student population in Queens, New York. Magnet Schools are important places of learning because these are specialized theme schools focusing on areas such as math and science. These schools often provide innovative educational programs. And perhaps most importantly because these schools are public, they provide parents a choice within the public school system.

This amendment would provide additional funding to increase assistance to Magnet Schools and other Local Education Agencies to create or expand Magnet schools in needed communities.

CSD 30 has created an interactive learning community employing the teachers, parents, students, and local universities of Queens, New York, and its mission would greatly be supported by additional funding.

I join with my dear friend from New York, in that it is my hope that this body will find the additional 25 million dollars for the Magnet School Assistance Program at the U.S. Department of Education as this bill works its way through the process.

HONORING JOSE MARIANO  
CASTILLO

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2001*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with utmost pleasure and privilege that I rise today to recognize a wonderful American, Mr. Jose Mariano Castillo, for his admission into the Order of Queen Isabella the Catholic with the

rank of Officer's Cross by His Majesty the King of Spain. Through his selfless work in providing valuable assistance, counseling and legal services for the protection of citizens of Spain residing in Los Angeles, Jose Mariano Castillo has earned this distinction.

Achievement and accolade have followed Jose throughout his life. Born in San Jose de Colinas, San Barbara, Honduras he graduated high school Suma Cum Laude and received the National First Place Honor gold medal presented by the President of the Republic of Honduras. Jose continued his studies in the United States at Los Angeles City College, learning the language of his newly adopted home. The next stop on his educational journey was the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where he pursued general undergraduate studies in Political Science and Public Administration. Jose interrupted his studies to serve in the United States Army for two years. He continued his military service in the ready active U.S. Army Reserves Control Group for four years, all the while completing both his undergraduate and law degrees.

Following graduation from Southwestern University School of Law and passage of the California Bar Exam, Jose embarked on an impressive law career. He counts among his major clients the governments of several countries and numerous national and international companies. In addition to a thriving law practice, Jose has been involved in many professional associations and community service activities including service for two separate terms as the President of the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Rightfully, Jose has earned a multitude of special honors and acclaim for his many accomplishments. He has been honored by the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and by the countries of Argentina Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras. Of course, for Jose being husband to Nancy and father to Yvonne are the most cherished honors ever bestowed upon him.

Mr. Speaker, as family and friends gather in Los Angeles to witness the presentation of the Order of Queen Isabella the Catholic to Jose Mariano Castillo by the Consul General of Spain, it is with great honor that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting this exceptional American and cherished friend.

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A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL  
AMERICANS: MR. ED AHMAD

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**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2001*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, as the nation of Guyana celebrates its 35th Independence Anniversary, I would like to salute an outstanding Guyanese American, Ed Ahmad, as a Point of Light for all Americans.

Ed Ahmad is a successful entrepreneur who owns and operates many businesses. He is currently the broker/owner of Century 21 Ahmad Realty, Inc. and Ace Mortgages, Inc. He is also the CEO/President of the Chateau Royale, Inc.

A Guyanese immigrant, Mr. Ahmad arrived in the United States in 1983. He came in search of prosperity for himself and his family. He worked hard and obtained a Bachelor of